

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Abstract:

The present invention provides a pumping system (60) comprising: a pumping mechanism (64); a motor (51) for driving the pumping mechanism; a drive control (50) for controlling the motor; and means (52) for monitoring at least one state within the system; wherein, to improve the performance of the system, the drive control causes the system to operate for transient periods in an overload condition which can result in said monitored state exceeding a predetermined operational limit, and when operating in said overload condition said drive control controls the power to the motor dependent on the level of said monitored state thereby avoiding said state from exceeding said operational limit.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. This office action is in response to communication filed on 03/24/2011. The prior art made of record in the attached form PTO-892 considered to be pertinent to the submitted application, but not to rely upon.

Claims 1 thru 5 and 7 thru 18 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: In regard to claim 1, the prior art of record fails to teach a pumping system comprising:

wherein said drive control includes gain circuitry which can adopt: a gain of 1 thereby not limiting motor power; a gain of zero thereby limiting motor power to zero; and any gain between one and zero, said gain circuitry controlling said gain according to a predetermined relationship with said state and in combination with the other limitations of the base claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see remarks, filed on 03/24/2011, with respect to claims 1-5 and 7-18 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection (dated 09/27/2010) of claims 1-5 and 7-19 has been withdrawn based on applicants

amendment to claim 1 and cancellation of claims 6 and 19. Examiner also re-verified the prior art documents (dated 03/30/2010 & 07/31/2006) submitted by applicants'.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANTONY M. PAUL whose telephone number is (571) 270-1608. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 7:30 to 5, Alt. Fri, East. Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Benson Walter can be reached on (571) 272-2227. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/BENTSU RO/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2837

/Antony M Paul/
Examiner, Art Unit 2837

04/06/2011